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Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 4 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with instructions received from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the press release issued on 3 January 2002 by the Government of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of another anniversary of the illegitimate British occupation of the Malvinas Islands (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)".

(*Signed*) Arnoldo M. **Listre**
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 4 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release

[Original: Spanish]

On 3 January 1833, British forces seized the Malvinas Islands, expelling their inhabitants and the Argentine authorities established there. Today, on the 169th anniversary of that illegal occupation, the Argentine people and Government reaffirm the inalienable sovereignty rights of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

The Argentine Government recalls, on this occasion, the steadfast and permanent objective of the Argentine people, enshrined in the National Constitution, to recover the full exercise of sovereignty over the above-mentioned territories and maritime areas through peaceful means for the settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, respecting the way of life and the interests of the inhabitants of the islands.

It is the firm purpose of the Argentine Government to continue making progress in the dialogue with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with a view to consolidating a relationship of mutual confidence and broadening bilateral cooperation.

On this anniversary, the Argentine Government reaffirms its conviction that the resumption of negotiations on the sovereignty issue, in accordance with the multiple and constant appeals of the international community, will contribute to the establishment of a framework conducive to achieving a fair and lasting solution to the dispute.